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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/806,000	03/22/2004	John P. Scaramucci	390.032	1218
30589	7590	06/22/2005	EXAMINER	
DUNLAP, CODDING & ROGERS P.C. PO BOX 16370 OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73113			FRISTOE JR, JOHN K	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3751	

DATE MAILED: 06/22/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/806,000

Applicant(s)

SCARAMUCCI, JOHN P.

Examiner

John K. Fristoe Jr.

Art Unit

3751

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 March 2004.
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 17-20 and 22 is/are rejected.
7) ☒ Claim(s) 21 is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 22 March 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 3/22/2004.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

1. The information disclosure statement filed 3/22/2004 is acknowledged by the examiner.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 17 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 3,504,885 (Hulsey). Hulsey discloses a seat for a valve comprising a plurality of spaced apart seat rings (58, 60), a valve member (14), wherein the innermost seal (58) deflects outwardly under a certain pressure (col.4, lines 27-32), and the innermost seal ring (58) is resilient (col. 3, line 21).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 18 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 3,504,885 (Hulsey) in view of U.S. Pat. No. 4,968,001 (Anderson et al.). Hulsey discloses a seat for a valve comprising a plurality of spaced apart seat rings (58, 60), a valve member (14), wherein the innermost seal (58) deflects outwardly under a certain pressure (col.4,

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lines 27-32), and the innermost seal ring (58) is resilient (col. 3, line 21) but lacks each successive seal being stiffer than the last and each seal having different widths. Anderson et al. teach a seat for a valve comprising a plurality of seals (45 and 47), each successive seal being stiffer than the last (col. 3, lines 14-29), and each seal has a different width (figure 5). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the valve seat of Hulsey by having each successive seal being stiffer than the last and each seal having a different width as taught by Anderson et al. in order to more effectively seal the valve about the valve seat.

6. Claim 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 3,504,885 (Hulsey) in view of U.S. Pat. No. 4,968,001 (Anderson et al.) as applied to claim 19 above, and further in view of U.S. Pat. No. 5,419,532 (Fan). Hulsey modified above, discloses a seat for a valve comprising a plurality of spaced apart seat rings (58, 60), a valve member (14), wherein the innermost seal (58) deflects outwardly under a certain pressure (col.4, lines 27-32), the innermost seal ring (58) is resilient (col. 3, line 21), and but lacks each seal ring is made of a different material. Fan teaches a valve seat comprising a seal of a first material (24) and a seal of a second material (26). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to further modify the valve seat of Hulsey by making each seal of a different material as taught by Fan in order to more effectively seal the valve about the valve seat.

Allowable Subject Matter

7. Claims 1-16 are allowed.

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8. Claim 21 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

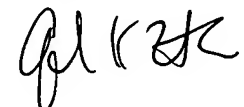
U.S. Pat. No. 5,338,003 (Beson) discloses a valve seat having multiple concentric seals.

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John K. Fristoe Jr. whose telephone number is (571) 272-4926. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 7: 00 a.m-4: 30 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Justine R. Yu can be reached on (571) 272-4835. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

JKF



John K. Fristoe Jr.
Examiner
Art Unit 3751



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6/24/05